



STATE OF INDIANA
INDIANA STATE EXCISE POLICE

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For Immediate Release

Excise Officers Shut Down Illegal Strip Club, Arrest Four

GARY (June 23) – Indiana State Excise Police officers shut down an illegal strip club and arrested four people in Gary early yesterday morning.

Excise officers assisted the Gary Police Department with a search warrant at AJ's Gentleman Club, 5195 Harrison Street, where alcoholic beverages were being sold without a permit. Officers were also investigating a complaint that prostitution was occurring at this business.

Before yesterday's raid, undercover officers found evidence of acts of prostitution. They also found that the unlicensed establishment had a full-service liquor bar, live nude dancing in the bar area and private booths.

Four people were arrested as a result of yesterday's search of the club.

Alton Walker, 36 of Gary, and Joseph Nieto, 30, of Gary, were arrested for visiting a common nuisance. Makita Turner, 20 of Gary, was arrested for minor possession of alcohol and visiting a common nuisance. Jim Dilworth, of Gary, was identified as the manager of the business and was preliminarily charged with maintaining a common nuisance.

Officers also found that the club had no valid state or city permits to allow the sale of alcohol or public entertainment. Officers recovered an undisclosed quantity of alcohol from the business and one vehicle. They also seized an undisclosed amount of cash and other items pertinent to the investigation.

All charges will be forwarded to the Lake County Prosecutor for review.

The club has a website available at: <http://ajsgentlemanclub.com>.

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

All criminal and administrative-law defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.